

On May 8, 2002 from approximately 11 am to noon James Moran and Jeffrey C. Ogden of the Merit Network, Inc., a Michigan non-profit Internet service provider, had an ex-parte meeting at FCC Headquarters with Narda Jones (TAPD), Jon Secrest (TAPD), Robert Cannon (OPP), and Richard Hovey (OET) during which they argued that Internet2 access should be eligible for universal service support discounts either as "Internet access" under existing universal service regulations or as an "Advanced Information Service" under 47 USC 254(h)(2)(A).

The arguments made can be found in reply comments to CC Docket 02-6 that Mr. Ogden filed electronically on May 6, 2002. In response to questions from FCC staff Mr. Ogden stated that the networks that are part of Internet2 are part of the worldwide network of networks that make up the Internet and that because the Internet2 networks serve a very large number and wide range of organizations throughout the United States and the world, the Internet2 networks are not private networks. Mr. Ogden also stated that while there are different approaches in different states, in Michigan commodity Internet and Internet2 access are offered to K-12 schools and libraries as a package over common facilities and there is no separate charge for Internet2 access.

An Adobe Acrobat file of a 40 slide MS Power Point presentation that was given to the FCC staff during the meeting was filed separately on May 14, 2002 (ECFS confirmation number 2002514735832). Finally the FCC staff received a copy of a document that includes examples of network applications that are available to K-12 schools that have access to Internet2. This document in either PDF or html format is available on the Web at:

<http://www.merit.edu/michnet/internet2/applications/>

Additional information about Merit and Internet2 is also available on the Web, see:

<http://www.merit.edu/i2/>